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Abstract (in conjunction with Fig. 2)

The invention provides a process for checking rod-like articles, in particular cigarettes (12), and an apparatus which is suitable for carrying out the process, a moveable testing element (20) with mounted push rods (21) displaceable in the axial direction being moved in the direction of the articles and the or each push rod (21) being deflected as it strikes against an article and an electrically evaluable signal - actuating signal (31) - being generated as a result and, upon generation of the actuating signal (31), the position of the testing element (20) is determined and the determined position is evaluated

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